Women applicants for the Anchal Test in 1103.

263. **MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*): With reference to the Anchal Departmental Examination held in 1103, will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there were women applicants for the same, and, if so, their names ;

(*b*) whether the Government refused to admit them for the said examination after their applications and examination fees were received, and, if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(*c*) whether under the scheme published in the *Government Gazette* relating to the Anchal Departmental Examination a woman candidate is disqualified to sit for the same ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) There were three women applicants *viz.*, (1) Srimati G. Kamalakshi Amma, (2) Srimati K. Parukutti, and (3) Srimati K. Lakshmi Kutti.

(*b*) Yes. The question of entertainment of women in all the Departments of the State, including the Anchal, is itself under the consideration of the Government.

(*c*) The scheme was published in the *Gazette* dated the 15th November 1921 and as at that time the question of entertainment of women in the Anchal Department had not come into prominence, it has to be presumed that, under the scheme, the question of women candidates was not considered.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Part (*c*) of my question is as follows :—

"whether under the scheme published in the Government Gazette relating to the Anchal Departmental Examination a woman candidate is disqualified to sit for the same ?"

The answer is as follows :

"The scheme was published in the Gazette dated the 15th November 1921 and as at that time the question of entertainment of women in the Anchal Department had not come into prominence, it has to be presumed that, under the scheme, the question of women candidates was not considered."

But my question is whether lady candidates are under the scheme disqualified to sit for the examination ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is no *definite* disqualification, because the question did not enter into the Government's minds then.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): May I take it that, under the scheme as it stands, a woman is not disqualified to sit for the examination ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is no *definite* disqualification, because the question did not arise then. When it arose, it was referred to the Government by the Anchal Superintendent and he was told that the question must wait until a decision has been come to, on the general question,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): I want a definite answer. May I take it that they are not disqualified? The rules do not say whether they are qualified or disqualified.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Because the rules did not contemplate a situation like that.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): I am not satisfied with that.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is quite different.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): May I know from the member what is the objection to allowing a lady candidate to appear for the examination and securing a pass?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The whole matter is being considered.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Whether a job is given to the lady candidates in the department or not what is the objection to the Government allowing her to sit for the examination and taking a pass?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not understand the object of a lady taking a pass in the Anchal Test Examination, if it is not to get entry into the department. I do not understand the merits of passing the examination, if there is no intention to get into the department.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Suppose a lady takes it into her head to pass the examination, what is the objection to the Government to allow her to sit for the examination?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is this objection to be considered, that it obliges Government practically to take her into the department, once she passes the examination.

Collection of Toll from the Kuzhittura Tollgate.

264. MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the total amount of toll collected from the Kuzhittura tollgate during each of the years ending 1104;

(*b*) the purpose for which the amount was collected.

(*c*) whether representations were made in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly regarding the shifting and abolition of the tollgate at Kuzhittura and the subsidiary gates;

(*d*) if the answer to part (*c*) is in the affirmative, the reply given by the Government last year; and

(*e*) whether the orders have been carried out by the Department?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) A statement * showing the annual collections from the Kuzhittura tollgate from 1089 (the year in which it was established) to 1104 is laid on the table.

(*b*) In order to meet at least a portion of the heavy expenditure incurred on the repairs and maintenance of roads and bridges.

* *Vide* Appendix XXXIX—page 796.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly